

## **Division VIII of 5 California Code of Regulations**

### **Proposed Amendments to 5 California Code of Regulations Section 80004 Pertaining to the Single Subject Teaching Credential Authorization**

#### **Initial Statement of Reasons**

##### **Rationale for Proposed Regulation**

The proposed regulations will allow for an additional option for employers to assign individuals to teach science. A Foundational-Level General Science credential has the potential to allow additional individuals to earn an authorization to teach general science and reduce the number of individuals on waivers, teaching permits and local teaching assignment options. The proposed regulations add a Foundational-Level General Science authorization as a subject for a single subject credential, however individuals with a single subject teaching credential in a different subject (mathematics, social science, English, art, etc.) would be able to add the authorization to their credential. An individual with a multiple subject credential would be able to earn a single subject credential in Foundational-Level General Science with verification of subject matter and a methodology class. Furthermore, the Foundational-Level General Science credential is a pathway to earn a full science authorization in Science: Biological Science, Chemistry, Geosciences and Physics.

The new authorization would allow for mobility for the self-contained elementary level teacher to serve in a middle or high school departmentalized level assignment as well as the middle and high school departmentalized level teacher in one subject to earn an additional authorization to expand their employability.

The holder of a Foundational-Level General Science credential would be authorized to teach the content area of general or introductory science in grades preschool, K - 12 and adults, but not departmentalized Biology, Chemistry, Geosciences or Physics courses. In addition, the holder would be authorized to teach integrated science in grades preschool and K - 8. Teachers who are credentialed via this route and who teach courses within this authorization would be considered “Highly Qualified” for the purpose of No Child Left Behind as they would have been required to demonstrate subject matter competence through examination or an approved program.

##### **Proposed Amendments to Regulation**

**§80004 (d) (1) (A), (B) and (C):** The science content areas authorized for service in grades preschool, K-12 and adults are added.

**§80004 (d) (2) (A):** The science content areas authorized for service in grades preschool and K-8 are listed.

##### **Documents Relied Upon in Preparing Regulations**

The Commission did not rely upon any technical, theoretical or empirical studies, reports or documents in proposing the adoption of this regulation amendment.

**Alternatives Considered**

The Commission must determine that no alternative considered will be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or will be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons or small businesses than the proposed action. These proposed regulations will not impose a mandate on local agencies or school districts that must be reimbursed in accordance with Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of the Government Code.